

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A somatic stem cell-augmenting material, characterized in that said somatic stem cell-augmenting material contains isolated concentrated isoflavone aglycone that augments stem cells and said isolated concentrated isoflavone aglycone is comprised of at least 70 wt% daizein.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The somatic stem cell-augmenting material according to claim 1, characterized in that said somatic stem cells including stem cells that become a basis of various organogenesis and histogenesis, that includes hematopoietic stem cells, nerve stem cells, and bone marrow stem cells.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The somatic stem cell-augmenting material according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that said isolated concentrated isoflavone aglycone possesses estrogen-like activity and is prevented from blocking enzyme activity of enzymes that act on cell proliferation factor.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The somatic stem cell-augmenting material according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that said isolated concentrated isoflavone aglycone is a material derived from grains.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The somatic stem cell-augmenting material according to claim 4, characterized in that a material derived from said grains is produced by performing fermentation on grains by koji mold to decompose proteins thereof and then performing hydrolysis.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The somatic stem cell-augmenting material according to claim 5, characterized in that said grains are pulse crops.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The somatic stem cell-augmenting material according to claim 5, characterized in that said material produced by hydrolysis of isoflavone aglycone is further concentrated.

Claim 8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (currently amended): A somatic stem-cell augmenting material, characterized in that said somatic stem-cell augmenting material contains isolated concentrated isoflavone aglycone comprised of at least 70 wt% daizein and further is a product which promotes proliferation of lactic acid bacteria contained in said product and/or lactic acid added to said

product during further hydrolysis of said product that is obtained by way of fermentation of pulse crops by koji mold to decompose proteins thereof.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The somatic stem cell-augmenting material according to claim 3, characterized in that said ~~isolated~~ concentrated isoflavone aglycone is a material derived from grains.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The somatic stem cell-augmenting material according to claim 10, characterized in that a material derived from said grains is produced by performing fermentation on grains by koji mold to decompose proteins thereof and then performing hydrolysis.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The somatic stem cell-augmenting material according to claim 11, characterized in that said grains are pulse crops.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The somatic stem cell-augmenting material according to claim 12, characterized in that said material produced by hydrolysis of isoflavone aglycone is further concentrated.

Claim 14 (canceled).

Claim 15 (previously presented): The somatic stem cell-augmenting material according to claim 6, characterized in that said material produced by hydrolysis of isoflavone aglycone is further concentrated.

Claim 16 (canceled).